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NEMOURIA

Occasional Papers of the Delaware Museum of Natural History

NUMBER 1

DECEMBER 30, 1970

NOTES ON PHILIPPINE BIRDS

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INTRODUCTION

Over the last 10 years the Delaware Museum of Natural History has received several small collections of birds from the Philippines. Some of the more interesting records are commented on here, including the description of one new subspecies, one new record for Luzon, four new records for Palawan, and one new record for Samar.

The number of interesting forms from the Dalton Pass area, which is only 180 miles northeast of Manila, is quite remarkable. They include: (1) *Turnix worcesteri*, a series of a species hitherto known from only a few specimens, all of which were destroyed in the second world war; (2) *Rallus mirificus*, still unknown elsewhere, although 20 or so specimens have now been collected, and at all seasons; (3) *Muscicapa latirostris*, new subspecies, a series of a bird known elsewhere from only an old skin from Negros; (4) the first Luzon specimens of *Zoothera andromedae*; (5) a series of *Zoothera cinerea*, hitherto known on Luzon from but a single specimen.

For their assistance, we wish to thank Mr. Ian Galbraith of the British Museum (Natural History), Dr. Austin L. Rand of the Chicago Museum of Natural History, Dr. C. G. Sibley of the Yale Peabody Museum, and Miss Mary LeCroy of the American Museum of Natural History.

FAMILY TURNICIDAE BUTTON-QUAIL

Turnix worcesteri McGregor, 1904

Turnix worcesteri was described by McGregor from four specimens purchased in a Manila market. Later, McGregor and Manuel (1936) mentioned a fifth specimen from rice fields a few kilometers south of Manila at Paranaque. All five skins were lost during the second world war. No others, apparently, came to light until duPont's collectors sent in a series.

Turnix worcesteri became something of a mystery; and Delacour and Mayr (1946) thought, for example, that it is a local race or even a variant of *Turnix sylvatica whiteheadi* Ogilvie-Grant, 1897.

Sutter (1949), in his penetrating study of some of the Indo-Australian button-quail, differed with these other authors, though he had not, of course, seen *worcesteri*. He concluded that *worcesteri*, of Luzon; *everetti* Hartert, 1898, of Sumba Island in the Lesser Sundas; and *pyrrhorthorax* (Gould, 1841), of

	WING ♂	WING ♀	BILL LENGTH	BILL DEPTH AT NOSTRIL
<i>T. worcesteri</i>	67	73	9.5	.53
<i>T. sylvatica whiteheadi</i>	62	66	9	.35
<i>T. everetti</i>		70		

Australia, comprise a related group of thick-billed turnicids, not at all close to *T. sylvatica*. Sutter left open the question of whether these three forms are races of a single species or species comprising a superspecies.

We have compared *worcesteri*, *everetti* (type only available), and *pyrrhothorax*. There can be little doubt that Sutter was correct. The type of *everetti*, wing 70, sexed as a female, is similar indeed to *worcesteri*, but is a little darker, is more blackish above, and has fewer pale, buffy or fulvous tints. Below, it is more like the male of *worcesteri* in that the abdomen is white. The throat is white, too, but has a few scattered chestnut feathers along its edges. It is possible, of course, that the type of *everetti* was missexed and is a male.

The only other known specimens of *everetti* are a male and a female, believed to be juveniles. Sutter's measurements for these are: male wing 65, female 76. Compared with the type, supposed female adult, wing 70, this would suggest that the type is in fact a male.

The Australian *pyrrhothorax*, judging from two or three all in poor condition, is less similar, larger, and paler. Furthermore, as Sutter noted, two other thick-billed Australian species, *T. velox* (Gould, 1841) and *T. castanota* (Gould, 1840), may be related also.

It seems likely that *everetti* and *worcesteri* are conspecific, the former being the older name. However, until more is known of sexual differences in *everetti*, and until both are compared with adequate material of the Australian *pyrrhothorax*, which bears a still older name, it is preferable to retain all three as species. Furthermore, it is unlikely that this group of elusive button-quail is represented, to the north of Australia, on only two islands, Sumba and Luzon! Probably it remains to be discovered elsewhere.

The color plate illustrates the two sexes of *worcesteri* and *sylvatica*. Females of *worcesteri* differ from males in their larger size, as in all members of the genus. Further, the breast is darker chestnut, the throat (white in male) is washed with chestnut, and the abdomen (white in male) is washed with buff. Dorsally, the sexes are similar, if not identical.

Detailed comparison of *worcesteri* and *sylvatica whiteheadi* is hardly necessary, now that they are known to be perfectly distinct species. Aside from the much heavier bill of *worcesteri*, it is a larger species than *whiteheadi*, and the chestnut on the breast is paler, sex for sex. Moreover, as noted, the throat and belly are washed with chestnut and with rufous, respectively (white in both sexes of *whiteheadi*). On the other hand, *worcesteri* lacks the chestnut or rufous tints on shoulders and nape, as found in *whiteheadi*. In



Turnix worcesteri McGregor, 1904



Turnix sylvatica whiteheadi Ogilvie-Grant, 1897

what is perhaps our only female (among two or three) of *whiteheadi* in good feather, there is an interrupted chestnut collar across the nape, as in other races of *sylvatica*.

The fact that duPont's collectors sent in a small series of *worcesteri* but no *sylvatica* suggests that the latter may not get up to the elevation (3500 feet) where most of them were taken. On the other hand, earlier records from the Manila markets and environs of Manila would suggest that the two do occur together; and, indeed, the difference in general size and especially in bill thickness leaves no reason to doubt that such may be the case.

FAMILY RALLIDAE RAILS

Rallus mirificus Parkes and Amadon, 1959

- 1 ♂, May 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon
- 1 ♂, 2 ♀, Nov. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon
- 3 ♂, 5 ♀, Dec. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon

No fewer than 12 specimens of this rail, which was described as recently as 1959 by Parkes and Amadon, were received; all were from the Dalton Pass area near the type locality on Luzon. This rail might yet prove to be a migrant to the Philippines, but from where?

Paynter (1963:1-2) recently concluded that *mirificus* is a race of *Rallus pectoralis* and suggested a cline: Australia, New Guinea, Flores, and Luzon! He may be correct, but we prefer to reserve judgment until more is known of *mirificus*.

The base of the bill is a brighter red than indicated in the original description or in the color plate that accompanied it. At least this is true of spring males. This color soon fades in specimens.

Porzana tabuensis tabuensis (Gmelin, 1789)

- 3 ♂, 5 ♀, 1 o, Aug.-Nov. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon
- 2 ♂, Dec. 1969; 1 ♀, Feb. 1970, Pangil, Laguna, Luzon

Our 12 specimens from central Luzon substantiate the earlier conclusion (Amadon and Jewett, 1946:550) that the race *filipina* Hachisuka (1932:234) is not valid and that Luzon birds should be assigned to *P. t. tabuensis*.

Curiously, the species is still apparently unknown elsewhere in the Philippines.

The specific name *tabuensis* has been used almost universally for this small, dark rail which has an enormous distribution covering Australia, New Guinea, Polynesia, and the Philippines. Mathews (1927:92) was an exception: he used the name *nigra* of J. F. Miller 1784, which antedates Gmelin's *tabuensis* by a few years. For a discussion of this case one may consult Lysaght (1956) and the included references. Miller's name was based on a drawing of a small rail, said to be from Tahiti, made by J. R. Forster when the latter was a member of Captain Cook's second journey to the Pacific.

Although it is not improbable that Forster's (and Miller's) bird was the

above species, this cannot be proved. Some, for example, have thought that the bird in question may have been another species of small, dark rail, *Nesophylax ater* (North, 1908), which is restricted to Henderson Island in the Tuamotus. In view of the preceding, it seems infinitely preferable to continue to call the Sooty Rail *Porzana tabuensis* (Gmelin) and to regard the name *Rallus nigra* Miller as unidentifiable. This will avoid much confusion.

***Poliolimnas cinereus ocularis* (Ingram, 1911)**

5 ♂, 2 ♀, May 1970, Iwahig, Palawan

3 ♂, 1 ♀, Feb. 1970, Iwahig, Palawan

Not previously recorded from Palawan.

***Gallinula chloropus luzanoi* Lletget, 1918**

1 ♀, May 1970, Iwahig, Palawan

Not previously recorded from Palawan.

***Gallicrex cinerea* (Gmelin, 1789)**

3 ♂, 3 ♀, May 1970, Iwahig, Palawan

Not previously recorded from Palawan.

FAMILY STRIGIDAE OWLS

***Otus scops longicornis* (Ogilvie-Grant, 1894)**

1 ♂, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, 1200 feet

A nice specimen of this rare owl, wing 147.

***Otus bakkamoena megalotis* Walden, 1875**

2 ♂, May and Sept. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon; wing 181

1 ♀, Nov. 1968, Diman, Balian, Pangil, Laguna, Luzon; wing 187

1 ♀, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, Luzon; wing 193

1 imm. ♀, April 1970, Silang, Cavite, Luzon

The Luzon race of this owl is generally known as *Otus bakkamoena whiteheadi* Ogilvie-Grant (1895). We do not here express an opinion as to whether it is properly a race of *bakkamoena* (type locality Ceylon), or even whether it is conspecific with the other supposed races in the Philippines, which are comprised of birds of smaller size.

Ogilvie-Grant's type of *whiteheadi* was from the mountains of northern Luzon, so Delacour and Mayr (1946:115), gave "mountains of northern Luzon" as the range. However, Hachisuka (1934:54) had earlier mentioned a specimen taken by Steere in the lowlands at "Laguna, near Manila." That this was based on a correct identification was made likely by a specimen later acquired at sea level on the Bataan Peninsula by Gilliard (1950:485). This last has remained the only specimen in the American Museum of Natural History; like so many owls, this is an uncommon bird in collections. Five recent specimens in the Delaware Museum of Natural History are marked as from 1200 to 3500 feet. Thus it is probable that this owl is of general distribution on Luzon, where it extends from sea level well up into the mountains.

NOMENCLATURE: An *Otus megalotis* based on a specimen collected by Cuming at "Manila" is listed by G. R. Gray in his list of the Accipitres in the British Museum (1844:45), again in the second edition of that little work (1848:98), and in his "Hand-list" (1869:46), but without a word of description. The name is a *nomen nudum* in all three places. Hachisuka (1934:53) listed *megalotis* (though it is an older name) in the synonymy of *whiteheadi* with citation to Gray, 1844. In a footnote he described the type specimen and stated that it is apparently the "hepatic" (rufous) phase of *whiteheadi*. In the systematic notes published in conjunction with their handbook of Philippine birds, Delacour and Mayr (1945:107) stated: "It is very desirable that the type specimen and unique example of *megalotis* be re-examined in the British Museum. There is little doubt that the name must refer to one of the Philippine owls. However, it is highly unlikely that it refers to the mountain form *whiteheadi*, as maintained by Hachisuka. . . . The range of *whiteheadi* was inaccessible at the time (prior to 1840) at which *megalotis* was collected." As we remarked previously, however, Hachisuka had earlier listed a specimen of this owl collected at a low elevation. Rand (1950), in reviewing the Philippine races of *bakkamoena*, noted the desirability of having the type of *megalotis* compared, but he did not do so.

We wrote to Mr. Galbraith of the British Museum about Cuming's bird and quote from his reply of March 4, 1970, as follows: "We have the Cuming specimen, type of *Lempijuis megalotis* Walden 1875 (which we regard as the first valid publication of *Scops megalotis* Gray 1844) and also the type of *S. whiteheadi* Ogilvie-Grant 1895 and other specimens of *Otus bakkamoena* "whiteheadi." The former seems to be the red-phase juvenile of the latter, though it is by far the reddest we have."

Reference to Viscount Walden's report shows that he described and figured in color (!) the type of *megalotis*. Incidentally, he remarked that the specimen appears "fully adult," although G. R. Gray and, as just noted, Mr. Galbraith considered it immature. At any rate, it is presumably mature enough to show, along with other characteristics (such as the more fully feathered tarsi and larger size), that it is the same form as *whiteheadi* and not the much smaller *Otus scops*, a species that is also represented on Luzon.

One of the five skins of "whiteheadi" at hand is as rufous as Smit's painting of the type of *megalotis* in Walden's monograph. The pattern is somewhat different in that the bird on the plate has the body plumage with narrow blackish barring, whereas all of ours (including the rufous one mentioned) have prominent, if scattered, irregular, blackish, longitudinal markings; and there is (in all five) much irregular dusky mottling, rather than the quite regular barring as in the plate. Nevertheless, assuming that the bird in London was in fact collected on Luzon, there seems little doubt that it is the form later named *whiteheadi*. As Mr. Galbraith pointed out, the name *megalotis* should apparently be attributed to Walden, all the earlier uses of the name as far as known being without description. Walden's description is a few months earlier than that of Sharpe (1875), who also

described the type specimen; and it is 20 years earlier than Ogilvie-Grant's *whiteheadi*. Ogilvie-Grant did not mention *megalotis*. The correct name of this owl thus becomes *Otus bakkamoena megalotis* Walden.

In his more general account, Ogilvie-Grant (1895:440) stated that Whitehead secured a small series of both the gray and rufous phases. Our five skins do not suggest a very clear division into phases. They might be described as follows: one rufous, one tending to rufous, one gray, and two gray with some rufous and buffy tints. Even the two extremes, the one here called "rufous" and the one called "gray," are not as bright rufous or as clear gray as found, for example, in the two phases of the eastern North American Screech Owl, *Otus asio asio* (Linnaeus, 1758); in addition, all five are more finely mottled and vermiculated with dusky than is usual in the Screech Owl (with which *bakkamoena* is sometimes considered conspecific).

FAMILY CAPRIMULGIDAE NIGHTJARS

Eurostopodus m. macrotis (Vigors, 1831)

1 ♂, May 1970, Nabaluto Mt., Bario Borak, Llorente, east Samar

First specimen from Samar. Rand and Rabor (1960:388) state they saw birds flying over densely forested areas but did not collect any specimens.

FAMILY PARIDAE TITMICE

Parus elegans mindanensis (Mearns, 1905)

1 ♀, May 1970, San Rafael, Taft, east Samar

Delacour and Mayr (1946:218) stated that this bird is not found on Samar and Leyte. However, McGregor (1920:427) recorded specimens from this group. Parkes (1958:96) states that during his revision of this species he was unable to find any specimens in any collections. Our bird seems to be the only existing specimen from Samar. The well-worn specimen agrees with those from Mindanao, but better material may reveal differences.

FAMILY TURDIDAE THRUSHES

Monticola solitarius philippensis (Muller, 1776)

1 ♀, May 1970, Bario Yusinca, Salcedo, south Samar

Not previously recorded from Samar.

Zoothera cinerea (Bourne and Worcester, 1894)

3 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 imm. ♀, April–Nov. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon

2 ♂, 2 imm. ♂, 5 ♀, 1 imm. ♀, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, Luzon

Delacour and Mayr (1946:185) call the Ashy Ground Thrush "rare, peculiar to the mountains of Mindoro." The species was lacking in the collection of the American Museum of Natural History until 1966 when four were received as a result of a joint venture on Mindoro with the Philippine National Museum (two of the four will be returned to that institution).

In their major paper on the birds of Mindoro, Ripley and Rabor (1958:11) list this thrush as one of four species of bird endemic to Mindoro. A few years later, however, in his list of the thrush family, Ripley (1964:146) included northern Luzon in the range of *cinerea*.

Ripley's inclusion of Luzon was probably based on a specimen in the Yale University Museum collected by Rabor on May 19, 1959, at Sablan, Mountain Province, Luzon, elevation "1700-3000 feet," weight of specimen 59.7 grams (data courtesy of Dr. C. G. Sibley). Careful comparison with the four recent skins from Mindoro mentioned above reveals no differences, though we were at first inclined to think the Luzon birds a little purer, less brownish, and gray dorsally. Wing lengths for the Mindoro birds are ♂ 110, 115, 116, ♀ 112; for the Luzon birds: 5 ♂ 107-116, 7 ♀ 109-115.

***Zoothera andromedae* (Temminck, 1826)**

1 ♂, 1 ♀, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, Luzon

1 imm. ♂, 2 imm. ♀, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, Luzon

1 imm. ♀, Oct. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon

Our immature birds differ from the adults by having the chest speckled with black and washed with orange. The feathers of the head and back differ by having light shaft streaks that tend to be more orange than white. However, the ends of the feathers are tipped with black as in the adults.

In their paper on the birds of Mindoro (1958:67), Ripley and Rabor recorded one specimen of *andromedae* from that island and wrote:

"First record on Mindoro for this rare species. . . . This is the fourth recorded specimen from the Philippines, the others having been obtained on Mindanao. . . . We are not certain whether this species is a breeding resident or only a migrant in the Philippines from the Indonesian Islands."

Perhaps the fact that geographical variation seems not to occur, though this is a passerine forest bird, prompted their remark.

However, it is our opinion that this secretive ground bird nests on Luzon. When these birds are compared with ones from the East Indies, we see no evidence of geographical variation. Further, the immature Luzon birds, while old enough to fly, would scarcely be expected to have immigrated from Mindoro or elsewhere. A pattern of rather disjunct distribution and variation seems "normal" in several species of the genus, such as, for example, the preceding one, *Zoothera cinerea*.

This species has not previously been recorded from Luzon.

***Zoothera dauma aurea* (Holandre, 1825)**

1 ♀, Feb. 1970, Iwahig, Palawan

Not previously recorded from Palawan.

FAMILY MUSCICAPIDAE OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS

***Muscicapa mugimaki* Temminck, 1835**

1 ♂, Dec. 1969, Ipo Dam, Bulacan, Luzon; wing 76

1 ♀, Nov. 1969, Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon; wing 72

This species breeds in Japan and adjacent Asia. Known from northern Borneo, its presence as a migrant or winter visitant in the Philippines was to be expected.

First recorded by Ripley and Rabor (1961:10), one from Mindanao, one from Negros, taken in late December.

Muscicapa latirostris Raffles, 1822

This flycatcher nests over an enormous area from Japan westward across parts of eastern Asia and India. One would expect geographic variation, but there is not very much, perhaps because the northern segments of the species, at least, are migratory and may become mixed in their winter quarters. Further, it is a plainly marked little bird, and one whose plumage tends to become "foxed" (brown) with age in museum specimens. As a result, although various names were applied to it in the early days "purely from ignorance," most recent authorities have treated *latirostris* as monotypic, e.g., Vaurie (1959) in his Palearctic list and Ripley (1961) in his synopsis of the birds of India. This should be qualified by saying that the form *segregata* of Sumba, in the Lesser Sunda Islands, is recognized by everybody, but is usually regarded as a species. Sumba lies beyond the normal migration range of *latirostris*, and the presence there of a representative of *latirostris* (though not on the many other seemingly suitable islands) can only be accepted as one of the not infrequent accidents of dispersal.

The extent, if any, to which *latirostris* breeds in southeastern tropical Asia remains uncertain. Its status there is obscured by late migrants. There has long been some evidence that *latirostris* does breed, perhaps only in mountains or foothills in such areas as Siam, Malaya (see Glenister), and India.

The only recent author to believe that *latirostris* does have a number of races, if fresh material can be amassed to work them out, is Deignan (1957, 1963). Deignan recognized three races: two migrants, *M. latirostris cinereoalba* Temminck and Schlegel (believed to breed in Japan) and *M. l. latirostris* Raffles (believed to breed in northern China, etc., though based on a migrant from Sumatra), and one resident form, *M. l. siamensis* Glydenstolpe, found in the mountains of northern Thailand and adjacent countries. Deignan thought there was an additional race or two in India.

In addition, Deignan (1957) described a new species, *Muscicapa williamsoni*, from Siam which was presumably resident in southeast Asia and the East Indies. This species differs from *M. latirostris* in its rufescent coloration but is apparently exactly the same in size; at any rate the describer gave no measurements.

With this preamble, we may now discuss the presence of *Muscicapa latirostris* in the Philippines. Its presence there was based on an old record or two, doubtful enough so that Delacour and Mayr (1946) were not sure if it occurs at all. However, several specimens collected in August, 1959, at Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon, were sent to the junior author. These

specimens, both males and females in fresh plumage, are all very similar and differ from all of a long series of *latirostris* in the collection of the American Museum as follows: (a) shorter wing—about 65 versus about 70; (b) rounder wing—second primary about as long as sixth or a bit shorter, versus as long as seventh; (c) throat streaked with grayish, not clear dull white; (d) grayish-brown wash on breast more extensive; (e) upper wing coverts edged with rufous brown.

We sent two specimens to Dr. A. L. Rand for an opinion. Rand kindly wrote us as follows: "The first of this species I've seen from the Philippines. Deignan, 1957, *Ibis*, p. 342, comments on a specimen from Negros in the British Museum as possibly representing a tropical race. Hachisuka, 1935-(4):288-9, lists two other localities from the Philippines, *viz.*, Bongao and the Sulus, ex Sharpe, but was unable to find specimens to match. From what I've seen, I'd say yours are the only modern specimens, and the second and the third definite records for the Philippines."

In the 1957 paper to which Rand referred us, Deignan wrote as follows: "In the Philippine Islands, a specimen of this flycatcher has been reported by Tweeddale from Valencia, Negros (*Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, 1878: 284-285). The bird had not been seen by Hachisuka, who with hesitation listed the species as Philippine, and occurrence of the species in the archipelago was considered somewhat doubtful by Delacour and Mayr. The skin in question (*B. M. Reg. No.* 87.12.30.517) is now in my hands; it is a sub-adult female, still bearing traces of the maculated juvenal dress, collected in August 1877, and doubtless representative of an undescribed tropical race. In wing formula (2nd primary equal to 7th) it agrees with *segregata* of Sumba, thus differing from all specimens of the populations discussed above, in which the 2nd primary falls between the 5th and 6th; on the other hand, it disagrees with *segregata* by having the tip of the mandible dark horny (immaturity?) rather than horny black or black, and in its rather browner tone above and below. Allowing for its immaturity, it matches well enough the two summer-taken birds from Malacca discussed above, differing from them mainly in its different wing formula, which may or may not have importance, and its paler mandible tip."

On the basis of our 10 specimens and the one from Negros in the British Museum described above by Deignan, it now seems virtually certain that there is a resident race of *Muscicapa latirostris* in the Philippines, at least on Luzon and Negros. We name it:

Muscicapa latirostris randi new subspecies

Type DMNH 3438, ♂ Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon, P. I., 3500', Aug. 1969. Wing 65; tail 50; bill width 6.5; bill length 10.5.

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from the northern, migratory race(s) as well as from Indian populations of the species, as noted previously, by being shorter and rounder winged, with a narrower and slightly longer bill and with the throat obscurely streaked with gray, the breast more extensively gray, and the

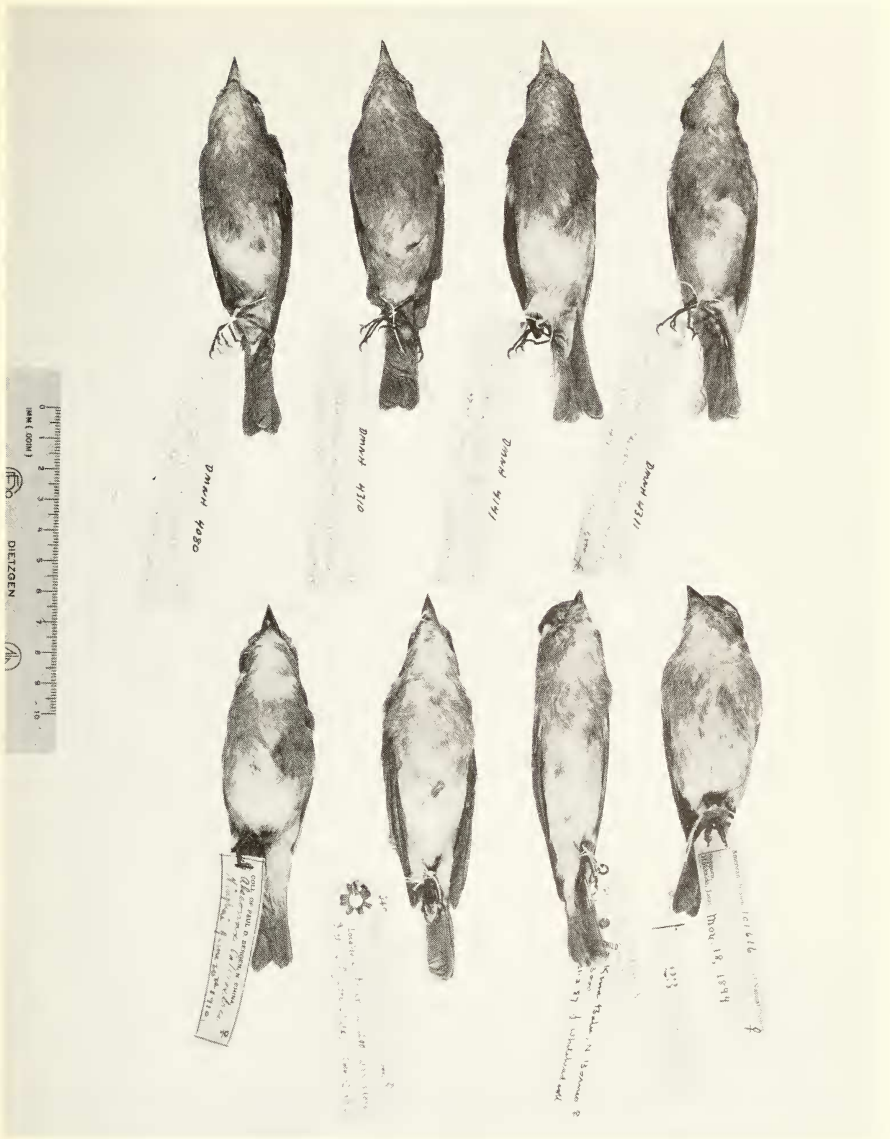


Figure 1 • Top: Four specimens of *Muscicapa latirostris randi*, new subspecies, from Luzon. Bottom: Four specimens of *Muscicapa latirostris latirostris* from various points of the breeding and wintering range.

upper wing coverts edged buffy (possibly an age character). In most of these characters it differs from *segregata* and from the little-known and also rare resident representative (*siamensis*) of this species in the mountains of the Indo-Malayan countries (Thailand, etc.). *Muscicapa latirostris segregata* and *siamensis* have a broad bill like the northern populations. *M. l. segregata*, like *randi*, has a short, round wing but in color it is more like the other races (throat whitish, unstreaked, less gray on breast).

REMARKS: The inordinate rarity of the Brown Flycatcher in the Philippines suggests that it might be a migrant, but from where? Formosa (Taiwan) would seem to be the only possibility, but it is believed to be only a migrant there (an infrequent one). The rounded wing suggests that *randi* is a resident form; and, as noted, the Negros specimen examined by Deignan is young, perhaps too young to have migrated. That *randi* might be a migrant to the Philippines from some unknown nesting area is thus no more than an outside possibility. *Muscicapa latirostris* seems to be rare as a resident in Indo-Malaya too. Both there and in the Philippines this might reflect pressure from similar wintering flycatchers. It would not be surprising if an occasional migrant Brown Flycatcher reached the Philippines (they are known from Borneo and Taiwan). The vague old records from Bongoa and the Sulus might refer to such migrants.

Now that the Brown Flycatcher is believed to be resident in small numbers in the Philippines and southeastern Asia, it seems reasonable to regard *segregata*, segregated though it is, as a race of *latirostris*, and indeed some have already done so.

It is perhaps pretentious for us to evaluate Deignan's *Muscicapa williamsoni*, having seen only a much-battered immature specimen from Sumatra that Deignan thought was "probably" his new species and another from the same locality which looks very much the same to us. Our guess is that *williamsoni* is not a species; probably it is a rufescent variant of some form of *latirostris*, possibly *siamensis*.

In conclusion, it may be repeated that the narrower bill and grayer breast of *M. l. randi* are obvious at a glance, though the bill difference is not adequately expressed by the measurements.

FAMILY NECTARINIDAE SUNBIRDS

Arachnothera clarae luzonensis Alcasid and Gonzales, 1968

2 ♂, Dec. 1969, Diman, Balian, Pangil, Luzon

Our two birds of this recently described race agree with the original description and differ from the Mindanao and Negros birds.

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